REMARKS

Applicant has amended certain rejected claims to more particularly point out his invention (i.e., by incorporating previously-dependent claim limitations into independent claims), and requests the USPTO to reconsider and allow this case in view of the amendments and the following remarks.

The only outstanding issue is the rejection of all claims as "obvious" in view of newly cited Jones. The Examiner concedes that "Jones fails to discloses [sic; disclose] incrementally interpolating texel color components" (Office Action at 3) but contends that Jones' disclosed mathematical equation makes this obvious because, the Examiner contends, "interpolating is a form of a mathematical equation." Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's position.

Jones teaches using <u>either</u> a lookup data set <u>or</u> using an equation to arrive at morphed texture values. See e.g., col. 7 line 26 and following and 8 line 18 and following. It is apparent that Jones' equation does <u>not</u> repetitively add precalculated amounts to decomposed texel values as applicants have claimed. Rather, Jones' equation approach requires multiplications and weightings which are computationally intensive. See col. 8 line 56 and following. Jones' data set approach seems to store everything in advance and look up the values from memory. See col. 7 lines 26 and following.

In contrast, applicants have determined a way to provide "texture morphing" at low computational complexity by precalculating an interpolation value that can then simply be repetitively applied during real time imaging to efficiently increment (or
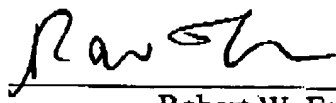
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decrement) texel color values during real time imaging to "morph" a texture from a start point to a target point. This feature is not taught or suggested by Jones.

Further dependent claims here require further details (e.g., using integer arithmetic as recited e.g. in claims 3 & 7, incrementally interpolating in response to integer portions as recited e.g. in claim 4, compensating for integer approximation errors by performing a floating point correction as recited in dependent claim 8, etc.) The Examiner seems to have ignored the integer-related recitations in making the current rejection.

All outstanding issues have been addressed and this application is in condition for allowance. Should any minor issues remain outstanding, the Examiner should contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below so they can be resolved expeditiously without need of a further written action.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____
         Robert W. Faris
         Reg. No. 31,352

RWF:ejs
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100

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